

Leicester City Council's Salix Programme Newsletter



Leicester
City Council

January 2022

A happy new year to you, and a warm welcome to the latest edition of the Salix Programme newsletter. This time, we introduce you to the city council's Sustainable Schools Team, and see progress and feedback from project sites across Leicester.

An introduction to the Sustainable Schools Team

Who are Sustainable Schools Leicester?

Leicester City Council has a dedicated Sustainable Schools team based in the Energy & Sustainability team who provide *free* support to schools to help them become more sustainable in all that they do.

As well as one-to-one support and environmentally linked projects, schools can engage through termly #EcoTeachMeets, staff training, resource planning & workshops, assemblies, Eco-Schools conferences & celebration events and can keep up to date through dedicated social media, monthly eBulletins and termly newsletters.

The Eco-Schools programme provides exciting opportunities for students in curriculum time as well as outside the classroom. Learning outside the classroom (LOTC) has been identified as 'memorable activities leading to memorable learning and positively contributing to pupil safety'. LOTC provides positive benefits to all groups of young people and supports a rich, relevant, broad and balanced curriculum.

How we can support schools

Under the Salix delivery works we are asking all schools to:

- Declare a climate emergency by the end of July 2022 and associated action plan (where Salix funded works are the main actions).
- Sign up to the Let's Go Zero 2030 campaign by 31 July 2022 (senior leader or governor via letsgozero.org)
- Work with the sustainable schools team at Leicester City Council to engage stakeholders (pupils, parents, staff, and governors) on the Salix funded works and environmental education/Eco-Schools.

The majority of schools are already working with the team, but if not please get in touch with Lee Jowett, Sustainable Schools Manager lee.jowett@leicester.gov.uk.

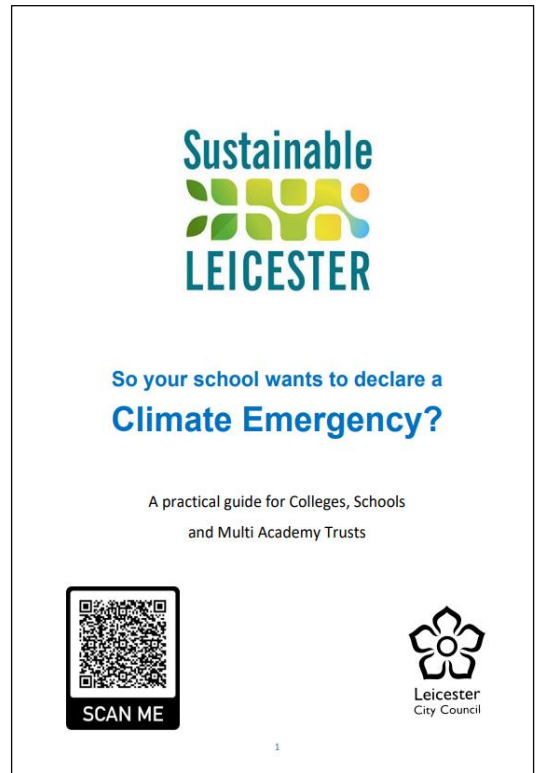


How to declare a climate emergency

The Sustainable Schools Team has produced a resource pack to help your school declare your own climate emergency.

1. Download the pack.
2. Read through the guide to understand what the Climate Emergency is.
3. Discuss your plans with students and staff.
4. Select actions which you plan to achieve, make them manageable but also remember we are in a Climate Emergency.
5. Make sure your actions have a duration, responsibilities and an evaluation.
6. Take your action plan to the Governing Body to ensure that you have their support.
7. You can submit your action plan to the city council which we will publicise as part of our wider action plan.
8. Start your action plan!
9. Review regularly to check and maintain your progress.

Further information is available on the [schools' extranet](#). The Sustainable Schools team can support write the action plan with school leaders.



Find out more by getting in touch:

Sustainable Schools Team

City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester LE1 1FZ

- ✉ Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk
- 🌐 schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools
- 🐦 [EcoSchoolsLCC](#)
- 📷 [EcoSchoolsLCC](#)
- 📘 [EnvEducationLeicester](#)
- 📞 0116 454 2271



Virtual Carbon Literacy Training for School Staff, Governors & Trustees



In February 2019, Leicester City Council declared a climate emergency. We are working to develop a climate emergency programme of action to reduce carbon with aim of the city becoming zero carbon.

In order to raise awareness through the community of Leicester we are using the Carbon Literacy Project as a way of accrediting school staff and students to become carbon literate. This equivalent one-day course will enable participants to be carbon literate and support them to deliver their own course back in school

Training: Mondays 24, 31 January and 7 February 2022
4.30-6.30pm each day (you need to attend all 3 sessions to pass)
Training delivered online via Microsoft Teams

Who would benefit from this project: All school staff and governors with an interest in becoming carbon literate, especially those involved in teaching about climate change and the climate emergency in Years 5 and 8.



Why participate?

- Gain a **better understanding of how climate change will affect you and those around you**
- **Become an accredited Carbon Literate individual**
- Acquire knowledge and skills to develop your own responses to lowering your carbon footprint, and the carbon footprint of others
- Gain knowledge of delivering a course about basic climate change science to your students
- Help to enable students to become **carbon literate**

Your commitments

- Attend all three **training online training events** in January/February 2022
- Complete **feedback** about your experience
- Create at least **one significant action, as an individual**, to reduce your own personal carbon footprint
- Create at **least one significant action involving other people** to reduce the collective footprint of your workplace, community or place of education
- **Encourage your school to participate in carbon literacy** either by delivering training yourself or arranging for Leicester City Council to deliver in-house (at a future date to be confirmed)



To book your place please book via this [eForm](#) or email Eco-Schools@Leicester.gov.uk

Roles and Responsibilities

With our expanding team we wanted to let you know who is best to contact for each project.
For all general enquires you can reach all of the team at Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk



Lee Jowett – Sustainable Schools Manager & team leader
Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk Tel: 0116 454 2271

- Salix funding – Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS)
- Coordinating grants, funding and social value opportunities
- Climate Declarations
- DMU Graduates
- Climate Woods
- Overseeing BESS Energy
- PFI schools environmental work
- Traded services (including MATs)

Molly Laycock – Education Project Officer for Saving the Saffron Brook (Full-Time) Molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk Tel: 0116 454 3187

- Saving the Saffron Brook
- Blue/Green Group
- Sustainable Drainage Schemes (SuDS) work in schools
- The Sea Starts Here



Marc Tench – Education Officer (Term-time, Mon/Wed/Fri)
Marc.Tench@leicester.gov.uk / 0116 454 6746

- Eco-Schools Awards
- Let's Go Zero 2030
- Tree planting
- Tiny Forests
- Polli:Gen
- Litter Campaigns
- Eco-Schools training
- BESS Energy – education support
- Salix – education programme

Hollie Campbell – Graduate Project Officer in Environmental Education (Full-Time) Hollie.Campbell@leicester.gov.uk Tel: 0116 454 4048

- eBulletins & newsletters
- Social media campaigns
- Botanica
- Jane Goodall's Roots and Shoots programme local support
- Promoting events
- BESS Energy carbon reports
- Roadshows & celebration events



Laura Barke – Project Officer (Full-time)
Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk Tel: 0116 454 7156

- Lower Carbon Lunches
- Carbon Literacy
- GYOG and Pumpkins
- Edible Playgrounds
- Young Peoples Climate Board
- Plastic Free Schools
- Re-Think Food Towers

Completed works

Fenestration

Before the Christmas break, the installation of new windows was completed at Wolsey House Primary School. This will reduce the amount of heat lost through old windows, helping the school to maintain temperatures inside the building more efficiently, saving on energy bills, and helping to reduce the school's carbon footprint.



Air source heat pumps

Recently, Ashe Construction laid concrete foundations for Air source heat pumps at Beaumont Lodge Primary School and Evington Leisure Centre, in preparation for Air source heat pumps which will be installed in the upcoming weeks.



**Beaumont Lodge
Primary School**



Evington Leisure Centre

Feedback from Salix Project Stakeholders

Premises Manager - Rushey Mead Primary School

Apart from the few hitches and time to complete, the works are wonderful and the professionalism of the teams working through the nights leaving no trace apart (from new lighting) has made a vast improvement to the school working conditions and the environment.



Premises Officer – Evington Valley Primary School

Just wanted to say what a great job the electricians have done installing the LED's around the school. They were extremely efficient and left the school very tidy.



Business Development Manager – New College

Before I went on holiday it was clear to see the difference the new lighting was making and even more so that now more areas of the school have been completed. This will most certainly support us as we move towards outstanding.



We are also extremely grateful for any additional work that the ESL team have completed. They have been an absolute pleasure to work alongside and we would be more than happy to provide a glowing reference for them.

We now feel like our environment is slowly catching up with those schools that were more fortunate through the Building Schools for the Future Programme

Premises Manager – Shenton Primary School

The school would like to thank your electricians Sean, Karl, Lewis, Kain and Chris for the installation they carried out yesterday. Because of a meeting in the school hall they were unable to access the area until after 5.00pm but they carried on until the job was complete, cleared up and left the site clean and tidy. Thanks also to you as the used tubes were also removed. The hall looks so much brighter and the staff have already commented on it.



If you would like to share any feedback on project progress at your site, please get in touch using the email address below.

Contact us

Each site has a dedicated project manager (Alan Evans or John Squires), however if you have a general question or need to get in touch with the Salix Project Team email us at

Salix.Project.Team@leicester.gov.uk